

House Resolution 889

By: Representatives Mangham of the 94th, Brooks of the 63rd, Watson of the 91st, Abdul-Salaam of the 74th, Thomas of the 55th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring and remembering the life of Davidayon Mayers-Kelley; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia has lost one of its most accomplished leaders with the
3 passing of Davidayon Mayers-Kelley, a fifth generation Atlanta businesswoman and a
4 renowned advocate of African affairs; and

5 WHEREAS, Ms. Mayers-Kelley served with unusual skill and dedication on the boards of
6 The Africa Society and The National Summit on Africa, working closely with Ambassador
7 Andrew Young, chair emeritus of The Africa Society, and the late Leonard H. Robinson, Jr.,
8 founder of The Africa Society; and

9 WHEREAS, Ms. Mayers-Kelley's most recent appointment was being named Chairperson
10 and Southeast Region Director for the Georgia AGOA Commission; she also was the Board
11 Chair of The Global Council on African Unity, and Global Council representative to the
12 United Nations Millennium Summit; and

13 WHEREAS, Ms. Mayers-Kelley has worked as an assistant foreign news editor and she was
14 part of the original team that built CNN into the media giant it is today; and

15 WHEREAS, she became involved in the business world, where she gained skills as an
16 entrepreneur and international consultant, and discovered her passion for fostering positive
17 trade between the United States and Africa; and

18 WHEREAS, through her consulting firm, MayerKel International, she gave advice on
19 subjects such as trade, economic development, and job creation, and as a joint venture
20 specialist, she arranged for trade delegations from sub-Saharan Africa to visit the Atlanta
21 area; and

1 WHEREAS, Ms. Mayers-Kelley became president of the Cascade Crossing and Corridor
2 Merchants Association, representing high profile entities such as Home Depot, GNC, Burger
3 King, Publix, Pizza Hut, Citizens Trust Bank, First Union Bank, and more than 70 other
4 merchants; and

5 WHEREAS, her immense devotion to serving her community, country, and heritage was
6 surpassed only by her loving devotion to her husband of 28 years, Leon Kelley; her daughter,
7 Nnike Payne; and her sister, Lois Hutchins.

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
9 the members of this body honor and remember the life of this phenomenal Georgian,
10 Davidayon Mayers-Kelley; express their profound appreciation for her exceptional service
11 to the community; and extend their sincerest condolences to her family.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
13 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Davidayon
14 Mayers-Kelley.